GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:591
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2000
MODERNISATION EXPANSION OF POSTAL NET WORK
DUKHA BHAGAT

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government propose to modernise the postal system to do away with mismanagement ;

(b) If so, the details thereof ; and;

(c) The steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS

(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a) to (c)

A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (A) TO (C) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.591 DUE FOR REPLY ON 8TH MAY, 2000 REGARDING MODERNISATION OF POSTAL SYSTEM

The Department has undertaken modernisation programme of the postal systems from beginning of the 8th Five Year Plan.This has involved the following activities. installation of computer based multipurpose counter machines in important post offices particularly at the point of interface with the customers. A total of 2660 computer based multipurpose counter machines were installed during the 8th Five Year Plan. During 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 of the 9th Five Year Plan 918, 1429, and 1250 machines respectively have been installed. Twelve crore transactions per year are being transacted on these machines.
Action has been taken to modernise money transfer systems by adapting satellite technology and installation of 77 Very Small Aperture Terminals (VSAT) during the 8th Five Year Plan.Order for installation of 62 high speed VSATs have been placed in March, 2000. 1.25 crore money orders are being transmitted annually on this network. Action has also been taken to automatise the processing of mail in major metropolitan cities. The Automatic Mail Processing systems have been installed in Chennai and Mumbai during the Eighth Plan and about 12 lakh letters are being processed daily. Computerised mail centres in 41 RMS offices have been set up during the first three years of the 9th Five Year Plan with a view to automatising processing of accountable mail like registered articles, insured articles etc.